National Policy on Zoos

1885. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI ANANTA SETHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have evolved a National Policy on Zoos;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to ensure enforcement of mandatory standards and norms for management of zoos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARAN-DI): (a) The Cabinet had approved a National Policy on Zoos and copies of the same were laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 18th December, 1998 and 21st December, 1998, respectively.

(b) The salient features of the policy are as under :—

(i) All zoos shall be managed with the objective of supporting the national efforts on wildlife conservation mainly through *ex-situ* breeding of endangered species and motivating the visitors for living in harmony with nature.

(ii) No new zoo shall be established unless it is essential for strengthening the national conservation efforts and technical support for the operation of the proposed zoo on scientific line is available.

(iii) No zoo shall acquire any wild animals unless it is essential for maintaining the genetic viability of the zoo population.

(iv) The zoos shall provide all animals in their collection, proper housing, upkeep and nutrition based on the natural history of the animal.

(v) The zoos shall ensure availability of highest standards of health care to all the animals in their collection. In this regard, cooperation of universities, colleges and veterinary institutions shall also be taken.

(vi) The zoos shall manage their animal collections according to a scientifically drawn management plan. Appropriate population control measures shall be taken in respect of prolifically breeding species.

(vii) Breeding programme of endangered species for reintroduction purposes in the wild would be taken only with specific approval of the Central/State Government and the Central Zoo Authority.

(viii) The zoos shall not enter into any transaction of animal and animal products with commercial organisations.

(ix) A formal education programme should be perused by the zoos for strengthening the education meas-sage.

(x) No zoo shalls allow within its campus any recreation/entertainment infrastructure which is inconsistent with the objectives of the zoo management or which compromises with the security/health requirement of the zoo animals.

(c) Enforcement of mandatory standards and norms for management of zoos are ensured by the Central Zoo Authority. The zoos which do not abide by the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder are refused recognition and asked to close down.

बाघों की हत्याएं

1886. **प्रो0 रामगोपाल यादव** :

श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि **:**

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में प्रतिवर्ष बडी संख्या में बाघों की हत्याएं की जाती है**;**